

**REMARKS**

Claims 44-46, 49, and 54 have been amended, and claim 55 has been newly added. Claims 37, 38, and 40-55 are now pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the rejections in the Office Action dated August 14, 2002 in light of the amendments and the remarks in the Amendment mailed January 10, 2003 and the instant Supplemental Amendment.

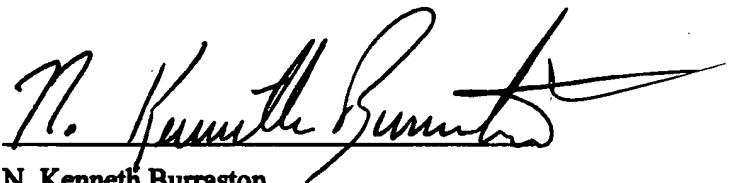
It should be apparent that the amendments made in this Supplemental Amendment were not made for patentability reasons but to broaden the scope of the claims.

Although Applicants believes that no extension of time or fee is required for acceptance of this Supplemental Amendment, Applicants petition the Director for any extension of time deemed necessary for acceptance of this paper, and Applicants authorize the Director to charge any fee due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (order no. P6D2-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 30, 2003

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**Claims 44-46, 49, and 54 have been amended as follows:**

**44. (Amended) A method comprising:**

**fabricating a [plurality of] tip structure[s] on a sacrificial substrate;  
joining said tip structure[s] to a [plurality of] contact structure[s]; and  
releasing said [plurality of] tip structure[s] from said sacrificial substrate.**

**45. (Amended) The method of claim [44] 55, wherein said step of fabricating a plurality of tip materials comprises depositing tip material in a plurality of openings in a masking material formed on said sacrificial substrate.**

**46. (Amended) The method of claim [44] 55, wherein said step of fabricating a plurality of tip materials comprises:**

**depositing first material on said sacrificial substrate;  
depositing a masking material on said first material;  
patterning openings in said masking material; and  
depositing tip material into said openings.**

**49. (Amended) The method of claim [44] 55 further comprising forming said contact structures on a substrate.**

**54. (Amended) The method of claim [44] 55, wherein said contact structures are elongate, and said step of joining said tip structures to said contact structures comprises joining said tip structures to free ends of said contact structures.**